

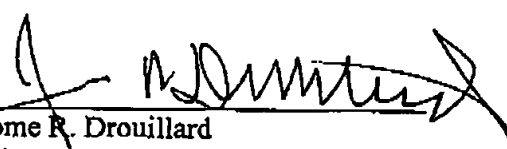
**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-15 are in the application. Claims 1-5 stand rejected and Claims 6-8 have been objected to. Claims 9-15 have been indicated as being allowable. In this Amendment, Claims 1, 5, and 7-8 are amended and Claims 2 and 6 are cancelled.

As noted above, the Examiner has objected to Claims 6-8 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that Claims 1-5 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including the usual limitations. As a result, Claim 1 has been amended to include the substance of Claim 6 therein, and Claims 5, 7 and 8 have been amended to conform with the amended Claim 1. Claim 2 has been cancelled. As a result, each of the claims remaining in this case, i.e. Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-15 are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. Such action is earnestly solicited.

Dykema Gossett PLLC

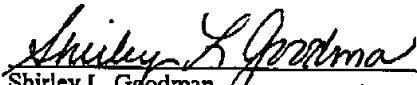
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Dated : November 8, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that the enclosed Amendment is being faxed via (703) 872-9306 to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2004.

  
Shirley L. Goodman